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REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted after appeal and prior to the date of filing of a brief, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.33(a), and presents rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal, as provided in 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b)(2). The Amendment cancels previously-pending independent claim 34 and adds new claim 36. Thus, the Amendment does not present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims, pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 1207. Additionally, claim 36 is identical to claim 24 as originally presented in this case, and was previously examined and rejected by the Examiner. Thus, the Amendment presents no new matter, does not necessitate a new search, and introduces no new issues, pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 1207. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the present Amendment prior to filing of an appeal brief in the present Application.

No fees are believed to be necessary for processing this Amendment. However, please charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

By:

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 8, 2007

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